

HARDSHIP EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

7510. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister representing the Minister for Energy

- (1) Of the \$11.9 million allocated for the Hardship Efficiency Program (HEP), what is the budget for 2011–12?
- (2) How much of the budgeted amount for 2011–12 will be spent on Financial Counsellors?
- (3) What proportion of the cost of financial counsellors providing the service of referring people for assistance under Hardship Utilities Grants Scheme (HUGS) comes from the HUGS budget and what proportion comes from the HEP budget?
- (4) How much of the budgeted amount for 2011–12 will be spent on household energy efficiency assessments and hardware retrofits?
- (5) How much of the budgeted amount for 2011–12 will be spent on the fridge replacement scheme?
- (6) How many energy efficiency products, by type, have been supplied to customers since 1 July 2011?
- (7) When will the review of the hardship energy efficiency services be completed?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (1) Of the moneys allocated to the Hardship Efficiency Program in 2011–12, approximately \$7.225 million has been allocated against specific projects.
- (2) The Hardship Efficiency Program for 2011–12 does not cover financial counselling services.
- (3) The Hardship Efficiency Program budget does not provide funding for financial counselling services.
The Department for Child Protection is responsible for the funding and administration of the Hardship Utilities Grant Scheme which includes funding for Financial Counsellors.
- (4) It is anticipated that \$1.512 million will be spent on household energy efficiency assessments and hardware retrofits in 2011–12. Expenditure will depend on rates of referral, assessment and hardware costs.
- (5) It is anticipated that \$1.632 million will be spent on the Fridge Replacement Scheme in 2011–12. Expenditure will depend on rates of referral, eligibility, average replacement fridge sizes and costs.
- (6) From 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2011, the Hardship Efficiency Program has supplied over 14,000 individual energy efficiency products to customers. A breakdown can be seen in [See paper 4748.].
- (7) This is yet to be confirmed.